

four or five coming to our help annually, but we need eight or ten. Last winter we had not a man to send to carry the Gospel to the Lumbermen of New Brunswick, cut off from all public religious ordinances, nor are we now in a position to occupy, except for the summer, the four posts indicated by the St. John Presbytery as in jeopardy. And with more men further supplies are required. If the men should be provided, their location would involve the outlay of another thousand per annum. And how is this to be accomplished? If ministers will bring the needs of the Church fully before their people, awakening an intelligent interest in all her schemes, and will make arrangements for frequent and systematic contributions, the object will be gained, but not otherwise, for vague appeals will meet with feeble and fitful responses.

FINANCES.—The Committee began the year with a debt of \$623 53, and they close it with a balance on hand. A few years ago, large aid came from the Established and Free Churches of Scotland, now that aid is given for the benefit of Manitoba and the North-West. Whatever has come into our treasury has been from the spontaneous efforts of our people. The grant kindly sent from Ireland was applied as formerly to help weak congregations, and went to aid the fund of another Committee.

Last year's report closed with these words, "While thankful to the Parent Churches, for much kindness and great liberality, henceforward we must look entirely to our own people; combining a proper self-reliance, with full trust in the presence and resources of Him who is able to make all grace to abound towards us, that we always having *all* sufficiency in all things may be able to abound to every good work." *We repeat the words with emphasis.* Our people are both able and willing to carry on their own missions, and are showing that they will do so. One hundred and sixty-four congregations have come forward to maintain our funds, and our independence; and the Committee would express cordial thanks for the liberality of many. Had all responded, another object earnestly desired by the Committee, the sending of some five hundred or a thousand dollars to help the missions in the North-West, might have been reached. Indirectly, indeed, something has been done. Two hundred and fifty dollars have been remitted to Manitoba College, provision has been made so that gifts hitherto received from Scotland, have been transferred to the newer country, and active supporters from nearly every congregation in the Maritime Provinces, some of whom are trained givers, have gone West and will strengthen Church and Mission Stations there. The Committee would gladly have sent more; because they believe in dispersing abroad, in working for, and giving to, the

Lord's cause, beyond our own limited sphere; and more especially because they recognize the obligation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, regardless of lines and landmarks, to follow our people over the continent, and to extend the Church of Christ, from shore to shore. May this or some other Committee, ere long, be able to report that every Congregation in the Maritime Provinces has sent up its contribution to the Home Mission Work of the Church.

Western Section.

"In the endeavour to develop the liberality of our people, towards their ministers and missionaries, the Committee have been cordially supported by the several Presbyteries of the Church. The reduced grants for the present year in Manitoba and the North-West, indicate a willingness on the part of the settlers in that distant province, to give for the support of gospel ordinances, in proportion to their material prosperity. But while the Committee are thus speedily reducing the grants given, to what may now be called the older stations,—new fields are so rapidly occupied with the rush of population now going on, that without a much larger revenue, they cannot possibly keep pace with the demands made upon them. Nor is it to be forgotten, that the ability to give for mission work, has been materially diminished by Presbyterian emigration to the North-West, which is still going on. There is thus greater necessity, that those who have the means, should give more liberally than they have ever yet done that our cause may not suffer at this most important and critical stage of Missionary enterprise in those more distant and hopeful fields committed to our care. The memorable words of the late John Angell James, addressed twenty-five years ago to the American Churches, are now specially appropriate to the Presbyterian Church in Canada; "Your policy must be a home policy. You must cultivate the waste places of your homestead. On your lands hang, in a great measure, the future interests of the globe. Hence the unspeakable importance of your churches concentrating, in a great measure, their religious efforts upon your country."

In closing their report, the Committee earnestly press upon ministers and office-bearers, a due recognition of the vast extent of our great Home Mission field. In proportion as its clamant necessities are intelligently presented to our congregations, will be the liberal response of the membership. The germ of Home Mission work is to be found, in our Lord's words addressed to his disciples: "That repentance should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." And just in proportion as this department is energetically prosecuted, will all the other